

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for introducing user-defined (e.g., proprietary) signals into a standard backplane. In addition to standardized connectorization, at least 5 one of the front side connector segments or at least one of the rear side connector segments is provided with additional non-standard connector holes, thereby forming an extra-wide segment. The inclusion of extra contact points in a connector segment allows for supporting an 10 independent signal pathway to carry one or more user-defined signals across the backplane, in addition to the standard bus signals, without sacrificing compliance with the applicable bus standard.